



Escape Planning

Safety tips for escaping a fire at home

If a fire breaks out in your home, you may only have a few short minutes to make your escape. When the smoke alarm sounds, **EVERYONE must know what to do and where to meet if there is a fire.**

SAFETY TIPS

- ➡ **DRAW** a home escape plan and discuss it with everyone in your home.
- ➡ **PRACTICE** the plan at night and during the day with everyone in your home, twice a year.
- ➡ **KNOW** at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
- ➡ **HAVE** an outside meeting place (like a tree, light post or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- ➡ **PRACTICE** using different ways out.
- ➡ **CLOSE** doors behind you as you leave.

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...

- ➡ **GET OUT AND STAY OUT!** Never go back inside for people or pets.
- ➡ If you have to escape through smoke, **GET LOW AND GO** under the smoke to your way out.
- ➡ **FEEL** the knob and door before opening a door.
- ➡ **CALL** the fire department from outside your home.

Escape Planning Facts:

Per the NFPA, only one in four Americans have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan.

While 66% of Americans say they have an escape plan for fire, only 35% of those have practiced it.

Once a fire starts, it **DOUBLES in size every 30 seconds, so time is critical.**

A third of U.S. households polled felt they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. The time available is often far less. And only 8% said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out!

For More Information

Contact:

Lexington Fire Department

Community Services Bureau

219 E. 3rd St. Lexington, KY 40508

859-231-5668

www.lexingtonky.gov/fire or

www.nfpa.org/education